

2025 Governance Workstreams

These workstreams were identified during conversations about the Cardano Constitution. Names listed indicate interest, and adding your name does not commit you to anything at this stage.

Participatory Governance

- **Companion document for the constitution:** Information about where the governance voting system is mentioned within the constitution, mapping guardrails to articles
- **Constitution education:** Education opportunities to educate those in the community and new to it. Translations. Explanatory material for authorized designees that helps to clarify what it means for ada owners and custodians. Notes about intent from drafting; Empower the community to make informed decisions and actively participate in the development of the network
- **Solutions and best practices for third party voting:** Explore and define solutions for enabling custodial services to offer voting in accordance with any authorization provided by the ada owner.
- **Self-custody education and culture:** Given the governance risks of a bad custodial actor, continue to push for ada self-custody.
- **Separation of powers:** Create educational materials to clarify how ada owners maintain power separation and encourage standards and tooling that provide transparency in the voting process. Encourage ada owners to make informed decisions that maintain the power separation. Explore technical solutions to separation of power such as identity solutions.
- **AI governance impact:** what considerations are needed for AI actors, and what rights might they have
- **Monitor and revise governance parameter settings:** Specifically mentioned was the info action
- **Governance “CIP” process:** develop a community process for defining governance standards/ ‘statutory laws’
- **Internal ecosystem dispute resolution innovation**
- **Increase governance participation** - for example, explore returning the voting fees to DReps voting on their own behalf, or if it’s a good/bad idea to compensate DRep delegators similar to the model that SPO delegators get rewards.
- **Monitoring Cardano’s governance system and constitution amendments:** Scientific approach to governance, monitoring and community conversations related to where constitutional changes may be needed; being aware of who we’re excluding, and whether that’s the intent when we’re drafting
- **Voting model innovation:** Consider decisions in the ecosystem that can be used to experiment with new voting models
- **Ethical code for Cardano:** Community consultation to explore an Ethical code for Cardano

- **Community engagement platform** - Channels for communicating about governance topics. GovTools review. Consider if they're working for communications
- **On-chain translations of the constitution**
- **Consider additional tenets** - Custodians shall not use the power of the ada owner without their permission, Decentralization tenet or censorship resistant, peer review and scientific rigour, tenet to not violate jurisdictional authorities.

Cardano Treasury and Budget

- **Treasury withdrawal oversight and dispute resolution:** Continue to mature the Cardano Budget process and define how to implement the audit, metrics and dispute resolution requirements
- **Define standard budget process:** Require that the budget process follow best practices, including a contingency provision and KPIs. Improve the process year over year generate technical requirements for things like Budget Governance Action(s) for budget buckets, create as much detail as possible before putting in action; include DRep and CC administrative cost, Cardano maintenance, cardano roadmap buckets; bucket caps; build in accountability and third party auditors
- **Sustainable treasury management:** Improve fund allocation guidelines, accountability measures and staking rewards. Determine if the net spend limit on the treasury should be within the ledger and parameterised. Partial payouts of treasury withdrawals
- **Cardano Budget communication:** Educate and communicate the Cardano Budget process widely in the community
- **Treasury net change limit:** DReps to approve a net change limit for the Cardano treasury as part of the budget process.
- **Putting funds back into the treasury:** Discovery, technical specification and development

Delegated Representatives

- **DRep code of conduct standards:** Individual vs unified, or basic requirements of a code of conduct can be determined by the community over time, e.g., using CIPs or Info actions; standard language for not purchasing votes; Develop community standards for DRep codes of conduct.
- **DRep Incentives:** Mechanism for DRep compensation, including oversight to compensate for measurable, quality outputs
- **Sticky stake/delegation:** address "sticky" SPO and DRep delegation possibly through a new CIP. Explore DRep saturation as a technical solution.

Stake Pool Operators

- **Requirement for SPOs codes of conduct**, if any
- Create educational materials to clarify how ada owners maintain power separation and encourage more data sources that allow ada owners to make informed decisions

Constitutional Committee

- **CC composition:** A process for determining the size and term length for the CC
- **CC election:** Identifying the election process; community education; embed global diversity
- **CC code of conduct:** Should the Constitution require that the Constitutional Committee code of conduct be on chain; standard language for secure key management best practices
- **CC funding:** Process as to how compensation is determined as well as a potential cap on compensation. Process for overseeing administrative expenditures by the CC including potential audit oversight.

Amendments

- **Refined amendment structure:** Continued discussion of amendment process including potential separate amendment thresholds for Guardrails.

Other

- **Crisis planning:** Develop de-centrally managed crisis response systems
- **Cardano legitimacy with countries:** Recognition by countries of the Cardano constitution as a legitimate constitution.